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USNMR SHAPE
UNITED STATES MESSAGE

OFFICIAL INCOMING MESSAGE

C-271/111452

TOR/1114592

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PRIORITY

DECLASSIFIED
DATE 11/11/00
BY 2014

FROM: CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG GERMANY

TO : US CINCEUR PARIS FRANCE, AMERICAN EMBASSY BONN GERMANY

INFO: CH US MIL LIAISON MISSION TO CINC GP SOVIET FORCES POTSDAM GERMANY.

NR : SX 4887 FOR NORSTAD AND WHEELER. 11 August 1962

REF : SX 4847, 9 August 1962 (USNMR LN 10026).

SUBJ: Final Report of Visit of General Yakubovskiy (UNCLASSIFIED).

1. (UNCLASSIFIED) General Yakubovskiy and party exited the Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) territory at 2000 hours Alfa, 9 August, without incident. The following are some details of the visit and some of the impressions gained by me, my staff, and the escort officer, Major General Polk, the later being with them from border to border.

2. (SECRET) Throughout the 36 hours the party was in the FRG, it was apparent they had been instructed not to ask probing and embarrassing questions, to remain close-mouthed, and to be gracious guests. During their time in Heidelberg they remained quite reserved and, except for a bit of wine, refused alcoholic beverages. We believe they were both surprised and impressed by the program presented them during their stay in the Heidelberg area.

3. (SECRET) Upon their arrival at the Soviet Mission Headquarters in Frankfurt after midnight, 8 August, the group relaxed and began to partake heavily of vodka and food. They were met at the mission by personnel from their Embassy in Bonn who remained with the party until it departed. With the exception of one officer who left under US and German escort to purchase newspapers, the party remained within the mission grounds while in Frankfurt.

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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4. (SECRET) Upon departure from Frankfurt at 1225 hours Alfa on 9 August, the party showed a complete lack of interest in anything, primarily because they had been drinking heavily and appeared to have been up most of the night. General Yakubovskiy appeared to be sick, and not just from drink; however, he remained a courteous host to my escort officer riding with him and began to revive a bit by the middle of the afternoon prior to reaching Nurnberg.

5. (SECRET) While passing through Nurnberg General Yakubovskiy seemed to receive quite an emotional shock. As the convoy drove into the city it appeared that the German police had halted all traffic on and near the route for at least 10-15 minutes before the convoy arrived. Many people were along the street watching the Russian cars pass; of course the press on 8 and 9 August had carried the story of the party's presence in the FRG. However, not one German among the crowds was seen to wave, smile or nod at the party as it passed. This fact apparently had such an effect upon General Yakubovskiy that he showed no interest whatsoever as the party passed the Palace of Justice, a place which he had specifically requested permission to see as a deviation from our proposed itinerary.

6. (SECRET) From Nurnberg to Hof General Yakubovskiy showed an intense interest in the terrain. This of course is normal for a military commander; however, such interest had not been apparent during the four-hour trip from the border on the previous day, including passage through the strategic Fulda Gap area. During the stop at Christensen Barracks for dinner General Yakubovskiy remained indifferent to food and drink although the remainder of the party came to life. Upon their bidding farewell at the border all expressed their gratitude, with Major General Makarov, allegedly

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a Tank Division Commander, commenting that their welcome was far warmer than they had expected.

7. (SECRET) If General Yakubovskiy had any particular tune which he was to play it was that the US and USSR should develop and foster a spirit of friendly cooperation and should make a mutual effort to keep Germany from rising again. On several occasions, including his remarks at the honor guard ceremony, he alluded to the cooperation of our nations during World War II to defeat the Germans. During conversations with General Polk, General Yakubovskiy indicated a strong personal dislike for the German People. However, having a flare for public relations, General Yakubovskiy always made certain that he cooperated with any German photographers and went out of his way to speak to and act friendly towards any Germans with whom he came into contact. The same was not true of the rest of his party.

8. (SECRET) At no time were there queries or discussions of substantive matters. Other than to indicate that it was a good thing for meetings of opposite numbers to be held, there was no mention made of the relationships of CINC-to-CINC nor of NATO to USAREUR. (However, in what could have been jest, General Yakubovskiy did state to General Polk that he would like to visit Paris sometime.)

9. (SECRET) If the mission of this visit was to create the impression in the minds of the Germans on both sides of the border that meetings on CINC's are feasible and therefore might be continued in the future, then, I am sure, the mission was accomplished. However, the underlying objective of the visit may now come to light for weeks. SCP - 4.

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ACTION: OSACEUR, (US ELEMENT)

INFO : COFS

(DOWNGRADED AT THREE YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER TWELVE
YEARS. DOD DIRECTIVE 5200.10).

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